

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 EA-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAM-01 SAJ-01 /075 W
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R 072100Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9189

INFO USUN NEW YORK 319

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT OF SPAIN 1173

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, KS, TD

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE KOREAN DEBATE IN 31ST UNGA--

CORE GROUP CONSULTATION: TRINIDAD

REF: STATE 098185

1. CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER, AS DESIGNATED CONVENER FOR TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, GATHERED TOGETHER CHIEFS OF MISSION OF UN CORE GROUP COUNTRIES ON KOREA ISSUE IN PORT OF SPAIN MAY 6. CANADA, NETHERLANDS, GERMANY, JAPAN, UNITED KINGDOM AND UNITED STATES WERE REPRESENTED. OF CORE GROUP STATES REPRESENTED IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO ONLY NEW ZEALAND WAS ABSENT (NO REASON GIVEN).

2. FOLLOWING DISCUSSION, IT WAS AGREED THAT CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER WOULD PROMPTLY CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTRY PERMANENT SECRETARY SEIGNORET TO DISCUSS THE KOREA ISSUE ON BEHALF OF ALL CORE GROUP MEMBERS, AND TO LEAVE WITH SEIGNORET AN AIDE MEMOIRE, THE TEXT OF WHICH IS IDENTICAL WITH PARAGRAPHS 4.A THROUGH 4.C OF REFTTEL.

3. I SUGGESTED THAT GREATER IMPACT MIGHT BE OBTAINED IF WE COLLECTIVELY CALLED ON THE FOREIGN MINISTER WITH
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THE AIDE MEMOIRE. HOWEVER, I FOUND MYSELF A MINORITY

OF ONE ON THIS POINT AND THE OTHERS PREFERRED THAT A SINGLE GROUP REPRESENTATIVE CALL AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY. SEIGNORET WAS CH EN PARTLY BECAUSE CYE WAS FORMERLY T&T PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE AT THE UN AND VERY FAMILIAR WITH THE EARLIER KOREA DEBATES, AND BECAUSE HE IS KNOWN TO HAVE EFFECTIVE FOLLOW-UP PROCEDURES. NEVERTHELESS, I REGRET SOMEWHAT THAT THE APPROACH IS NOT BEING MADE AT LEAST TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER.

4. WE ALSO DECIDED TO URGE THE TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO GOVERNMENT TO BE REPRESENTED IN SOME WAY AT THE NACC MEETING IN ALGIERS LATER THIS MONTH, IF POSSIBLE, IN ORDER TO HAVE A MODERATING IMPACT ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH THE NACC WILL MAKE TO THE NAM SUMMIT IN COLOMBO. WE WERE UNCERTAIN WHETHER THE NAM PRECEDENTS WOULD PERMIT PARTICIPATION IN ALGIERS OF AN NAM GOVERNMENT NOT ON THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE, BUT FELT IT WORTHWHILE TO URGE THE GOTT TO GET INVOLVED EARLY IF ITS MODERATE VIEWS WERE TO HAVE ANY IMPACT IN THE FACE OF THE CLEAR THRUST OF THE RADICALS. MY BRITISH COLLEAGUE IN PARTICULAR FELT THIS WAS A USEFUL APPROACH.

5. LASTLY, THE CORE GROUP DECIDED TO URGE THE GOTT TO VOTE WITH US ON THE KOREAN ISSUE AT THE 31ST UNGA, OR AT A MINIMUM TO ABSTAIN.

6. CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER INFORMS ME HE MET WITH PERMANENT SECRETARY SEIGNORET MAY 7 AND PRESENTED THE AIDE MEMOIRE AS THE COLLECTIVE REPRESENTATION OF THE CORE GROUP. SEIGNORET NOTED THAT IT WOULD NOT BE APPROPRIATE FOR TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO TO TRY TO BARGE INTO THE NACC MEETING IN ALGIERS AND IT WOULD DEFINITELY NOT BE SENDING A REPRESENTATIVE THERE. REGARDING THE OTHER ASPECTS OF OUR REPRESENTATION HE EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THE VIEWS BUT DID NOT COMMENT SUBSTANTIVELY.

7. COMMENT: GIVEN THE CONSISTENT ABSTENTION ON ALL KOREA VOTES BY TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO AT THE UNGA FROM THE BEGINNING, AND THE UNPRODUCTIVENESS OF THE REALLY
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MAJOR EFFORT WE MADE LAST YEAR TO OBTAIN A SHIFT INTO THE POSITIVE COLUMN, I BELIEVE WE CAN SIMPLY EXPECT ABSTENTION AGAIN THIS YEAR.

8. WITH REGARD TO THE NAM SUMMIT, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO WILL BE A MODERATE AND RATIONAL VOICE, BUT WHETHER ITS INFLUENCE WILL BE STRONGLY FELT OR ALMOST NONEXISTENT WILL DEPEND SIGNIFICANTLY ON WHO HEADS THE T&T

DELEGATION. UNLESS PRIME MINISTER DR. ERIC WILLIAMS
ELECTS TO GO PERSONALLY TO THE NAM SUMMIT, THE T&T
DELEGATE IS LIKELY TO HAVE LOW-KEY INSTRUCTIONS
ESSENTIALLY TO KEEP QUIET AND NOT MAKE WAVES.
FAY

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